

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 8-11 and 13-14 are pending, with Claim 13 amended by the present amendment.

In the Official Action of January 18, 2006, Claims 8, 9, 13 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shamir (EP 0325238) in view Schneier (Applied Cryptography Protocols, Algorithms and Source Code in C, 2nd Edition, pages 249 and 250); and Claims 10 and 11 were indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

In the Advisory Action of August 2, 2006, Claims 8-11 were allowed.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the allowance of Claims 8-11.

Claim 13 is amended to recite features believed to have been found allowable in Claim 8. No new matter is added.

Applicants submit that the present amendment does not raise a new issue that would require further consideration and/or search.

Accordingly, in view of the present amendment and in light of the previous discussion, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance and respectfully request an early and favorable action to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

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